

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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No. 29

INTERSTATE R. R. GETS FRANCHISE

For Mile of Track Through
Norton to Connect With
Wise Terminal
Railway.

A dispatch sent out from Norton last week is to the effect that at the regular monthly meeting of the town council a perpetual franchise was granted to the Interstate Railway Co. for a line to be built from its present terminus in the west end through the town, parallel to Park avenue on the south side and connecting with the Wise Terminal Railroad Co. at a point near the Norfolk and Western depot. The distance is about one mile. The amount to be paid for the franchise is \$7,500. When the Interstate first built into Norton about three years ago, an effort was made to secure running rights over the main line of the Norfolk and Western and to use its depot. This was denied, however. Finally the matter was taken up by the Norton Board of Trade and carried before the state corporation commission. The decision was adverse to the Interstate. An appeal was taken and the question was carried before the supreme court with similar results, compelling the Interstate to remain on the outskirts of the town and a mile from the N. & W. depot. Since that time transfer has been made from one route to the other by means of a hack line, a most inconvenient arrangement and a cause for no little annoyance to the traveling public.

A few months ago the Interstate applied for the franchise which was granted last week. It was held up in the vain hope that the Norfolk and Western would relent and allow the Interstate to come through as originally proposed. This mile of road to be built traverses Park avenue, the principal street of the town.

AN INDEPENDENT COUNTY TICKET.

While it was thought for a time that there would be practically only one ticket in the field for election of county officers this fall, except possibly one or two independents, it now appears there are aspirants from this source for all of the offices, as follows:

Treasurer—S. J. Horne.
Commonwealth's Attorney—W. W. G. Dotson.
Clerk—W. D. McNeil.
Sheriff—Ira J. Beverly.
COMMISSIONERS OF REVENUE.
Western District—L. C. Wells.
Eastern District—Joe Johnson.

NORTON IMPROVE- MENT BONDS SOLD.

It is learned here that Henry Nuveen and Company, of Chicago, have made final negotiations for \$40,000 of the 70,000 improvement bonds authorized for Norton several months ago and bids will be received at an early date. Half of the \$40,000 will be spent for sewerage and the remainder for street improvements. The original issue provided for a town hall also, though the sale of bonds for an amount sufficient to cover this will be postponed for a while.

Bunn and Company

Getting Ready to Commence
Work on New Roads.

Bunn and Company, of this place, who received a contract from the board of supervisors of Wise county to build about fifty miles of the new public roads are preparing to commence work on their contract.

Their first work will be done at Preacher Creek on the road between Appalachia and Stonega. They are also preparing to commence work on other sections of their contracts, and in a short time they will be working on all the roads they are to build.

They have opened an office in the room adjoining Kelly Mann's store, on Wood Avenue, and the work on the various sections will be directed from this place. Mr. B. C. Ferguson will have charge of the office here and will keep the books for the company.

The Clark county Construction Company, who have the contract to build the road, from the Lee county line to Minten's Store, have commenced work, beginning at the Lee county line.

Another Deal

Louisville Capitalists Purchase
Kentucky Coal
Property

Another big deal in coal lands in this immediate vicinity, involving an outlay of several hundred thousands of dollars was consummated last week when the Pioneer Coal Co., composed of Louisville capitalists purchased outright the holdings of the Edgemont Coal Co., on Right Fork of Straight Creek, at Kettle Island, consisting of 5000 acres of the finest coal lands in this territory. The company also secures the leases of the East Tennessee Coal Co., who had already begun the work of opening mines, having driven four entries, and begun the erection of a tippie.

The L. & N. Railroad built a railroad to the property last year, and the work required to be done by the new company to get in shape to ship coal, is small, comparatively speaking, and it is their intention to rush the work of building houses, and they hope to have everything in shape to operate the mines by October 1st of this year.

The Louisville people who are behind the deal are J. B. Speed, F. M. Sackett, R. P. Barnard, W. S. Speed, M. M. Bardwell and C. S. Neil. These gentlemen represent several millions in capital, and have large coal interests in the Jellico district.

The Company will maintain its general offices at Kettle Island, where a modern camp will be constructed, with sales office and yards in Louisville. Mr. F. M. Sackett will have charge of the development work. He informs us that the Company will work four entries and that their operation will be one of the largest in this section of the State.—Pineville Sun.

Railroad Plan Improvements

L. & N. Will Expend Much
Money For Double Track
Work—Other Roads
To Build.

The following is taken from the Knoxville Journal and Tribune:

Announcement is made from an official source that the Louisville & Nashville railway will award the contract for the construction of about a hundred miles of double-track on the Louisville-New Orleans line, and it is estimated that the reconstruction work planned will cost in the neighborhood of \$8,000,000.

According to the information given a report for the Journal and Tribune, the Lewisburg & Northern bill passed by the Tennessee legislature will enable all railways in this state to construct double-tracks without regard to the old lines. This bill will enable all railways in the state to build cut-off lines and since the passage of that bill, it is said that the L. & N. will build a new line which will cut down the distance between New Orleans and Louisville. A new line planned will side-step Nashville. Engineers have been in the field for several months making the surveys for the new construction work, and it is asserted that the new line will be built regardless of cost, and with the object of getting a four tenths of one per cent grade.

It is understood that nearly all of the rights-of-way have been secured for the new line across the state of Tennessee. It is not known when the contracts will be awarded, but contracting firms in all parts of the country are watching the moves with interest. It was said last night that these improvements were being contemplated in view of the great traffic that is soon to be created, due to the opening of Panama Canal, and the belief was expressed that the entire line of the Louisville & Nashville railway would be double-tracked between Louisville and New Orleans within the next few years. With the completion of the Panama canal, it is expected that the L. & N. will carry heavy traffic from the grain fields of the west, and from the manufacturing centers of the United States to the ports along the Gulf of Mexico, and in contemplation of that traffic, it is said that the improvements will soon be projected and pushed to completion.

It is also said that other railway lines that penetrate the states of the south and reach the southern ports, are making plans for improvements to be finished within the next few years. It is the belief of some of the local railroad people that the south will be one of the greatest sections in the United States for the re-construction of railway lines during the next two years. It is stated that many millions of dollars will be expended in this section for double-tracking and for general improvements to be inaugurated in view of the building of the Panama canal.

BIG INCREASE IN REVENUE

Bristol, Va., July 13.—Collector L. P. Summers, of the Sixth revenue district, with offices in Abingdon, has closed his records for the past fiscal year, with collection aggregating \$1,318,878.75. This is the largest record yet and includes the amount collected on income, spirituous liquors, tobacco and cigars. In two days during June the collector took in \$90,000.

The One Day Cold Cure.
For cold in the head and sore throat use Ken-
nedy's Cold Cream Laxative Ointment, the "One
Day Cold Cure."

Civic League Column

EDITED BY PRESS COMMITTEE.

Meetings Second Friday of Each Month.

The Woman's Civic League held its monthly meeting in Goodloe's Store, Friday, July 14, at 4 p. m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Chairman of the Membership Committee reported one new member.

The Finance Committee reported one dollar dues collected.

The Health Committee reported one dozen fly traps sold. These traps are a sure catch for flies, cost twenty cents a piece, and can be procured by ordering them from Mrs. Mouser.

The Executive Committee reported a meeting held for the discussion of plans for serving refreshments at the Fourth of July German.

The Street Committee has asked the Town Council to drain a pool of stagnant water, near the home of Mr. Bouda. This is not only unsightly, but a breeder of mosquitoes and other pests.

The Treasurer's report is as follows:

April 1—Balance	\$ 88.34
Dues	4.00
Total Receipts of May Day Fete	119.19
From Willard Starr Company to cover cost of circulars	1.25
Donation for Volunteer Day	1.25
Checks paid out—	\$210.93
For vines and planting them	\$ 4.04
For 2 men planting trees in cemetery	1.60
Light used during Lyceum Course	5.00
Wise Printing Company	3.25
Drinking Fountain and Installation	16.50
Expenses of May Day Fete	34.62
For and Peck for defining line	5.75
Starting voting contest for Queen	2.00
	\$74.26
	\$156.07

The League wishes to return thanks to Mr. Reeder for a check of five dollars.

We are also indebted to Dr. Lloyd for a box of calladiums, which we will place in the hands of good citizens to beautify their premises.

A motion was passed that we ask the V. & S. W. and L. & N. R. R. to place flower beds at their respective stations.

A suggestion was made that the appearance of our town would be more attractive, were the telephone poles painted. It was moved and seconded that we ask the Telephone Company to do by us as they do by other towns.

It was moved and seconded that our correspondent secretary write and ask Mr. C. B. Slemple to use his efforts in procuring a Public Drinking Fountain to be placed on the pavement of the Government Building.

A motion for adjournment was passed. The next meeting will be held the second Friday in August at 5 p. m.

KILLING THE FLY.

Poisons have long been used as an outdoor measure against flies. The writer has done practically nothing with this method, because the insects obtained in this way could not be used as bird food. However, if poisoning methods are developed effectively outdoors, it is quite probable that they may afford the easiest and least expensive means of exterminating flies. We should then aim to keep all food material tightly covered except such as is poisoned.

Probably the safest and most effective poison is formalin, in about a two per cent. solution. This means eight teaspoonfuls of the commercial formalin to a quart of water. Milk may be used instead, and in this strength of formalin it will "keep" forever, or any other substance attractive to flies may be added. However, plain formalin water seems to be about as attractive as any other mixture, and during hot, dry weather may cover the porches or stable floor black with flies that will never lay any more eggs. By using it about barn-yards and stables we may catch the stable-fly,

which causes such distress to domestic animals, if this insect ever drinks anything but blood—which, we may hope, some one will find out next season.

The writer's devices for using formalin consist simply in inverting over saucers large bottles, with neck broken in the mouths, the whole contrivance either supported on wire or wooden holders, or simply fastened in a sunny angle of the house or stable where flies congregate. The bottle retains the strength of the solution indefinitely, and does it down as it is used. Once set, it will stay set for weeks or months.

Very few flies survive the water. These few are the sparks which start the summer conflagration. A pair beginning early in April may be the progenitors of nearly one million by June and of two billion three hundred and ten million five hundred thousand by July. Any community in which every member has intelligence enough to realize this fact has the power to be free from flies, and will remain so as long as this level of civic mentality is maintained.

Starting in the early spring the youth of any neighborhood, town or city, with proper organization, possibly in connection with the nature study in the grades and the science classes of the high school, could relieve the place of the fifth-fly nuisance. This would be a wonderful lesson in civic cooperation, and as a result there would follow a great uplift in good health and wholesome living.

Perhaps the boy who said, "Everything is easy to do if you only know how," who must be about eighteen by this time may discover better plans and teach us easier ways by a better "knowing how" than the writer has been able to suggest.

LIGHTNING CAUSES MUCH DAMAGE.

List of Fatalities and Losses
as Result of Severe
Electrical Storms
Last Week.

Clayton Edds and Will Pierce were instantly killed and their fathers, Lincoln Edds and Isaac Pierce, were knocked down and for many hours unconscious from a stroke of lightning while standing under a tree for shelter, near the Tennessee line in Scott county.

Lightning struck the kitchen flue of Gordon Gilly's residence here, tearing up the stove and spoiling their dinner which had just been cooked.

A single bolt of lightning killed three valuable horses belonging to Rev. T. P. Graham on his farm near Jonesville.

The telephone and telegraph lines were much disturbed because of the storm's pranks, the telephone company especially, being put to a large amount of extra work.

Russell county also suffered as per the following items from the Lebanon News:

The damage done to growing crops cannot be estimated, corn was laid flat and much of it was broken off.

D. K. Banner's grainery blew down, spilling over one hundred bushels of wheat.

Two miles east of town lightning killed three export steers for Hazel Gilmer. Just a few years back Mr. Gilmer had ten export cattle killed by a single bolt of lightning.

A fine mule belonging to G. O. Kiser and the saddle mare of Mrs. Tom Campbell, three miles south of town was killed by lightning.

Shade trees along Main street were twisted and splintered, and one end of the foundation of Mrs. J. R. Shomaker's millinery store crumbled to the sidewalk.

GOVERNOR WANTS PRAYERS FOR RAIN

Richmond, Va., July 13.—For quick results Virginia's governor probably has all records beaten. Within an hour of the time he issued a proclamation calling upon the people of Virginia to pray for rain, the showers descended upon the capital.

Much concerned about the losses which the people of this state have experienced as a result of the drought, the governor yesterday prepared an address, which was duly signed by Secretary Ben Owen. The fact that rain fell, however, does not mean that the request is withdrawn, for it is realized that a great deal more precipitation is needed, and that yesterday's showers were local and not at all general.

The proclamation is as follows:

"To the People of Virginia:
"The drought has become so serious, threatening not only the crops, but the water supply of some of our cities, that unless we have rain within the next few days great suffering must result. I therefore call upon all the people of the commonwealth, of every name and denomination when they assemble in their churches and places of worship and in their homes, to offer earnest prayers to God that abundant rain be sent upon the suffering earth and that we may be blessed as a people.

"Given under my hand and under the lesser seal of the commonwealth, at Richmond, this the eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eleven, and in the one hundred and thirty-fifth year of the commonwealth.

WILLIAM HODGES MANN,
Governor.

"By the Governor:
"B. O. JAMES,
Secretary of the Commonwealth."

Important Organization

Good Roads Improvement
Association at Gate City.

A number of citizens met at the courthouse on the night of July 6th and organized road improvement association.

The meeting was called to order by J. H. Johnson who in a brief manner explained the object of the meeting, after which ex-Sheriff W. C. R. Strong was made temporary secretary.

Speeches were made as follows:

W. H. Nickels—Good roads as a fact in progress of a country.

E. T. Carter—Outlook for good roads in Scott county.

S. H. Bond—Necessity of good roads in Scott county.

E. M. Carter—Economic value of good roads.

H. O. L. Richmond—The relation of good roads to the social development of a country.

J. H. Peters and J. P. Corna added some very interesting remarks at close of above addresses.

Dr. C. T. Barker was elected president of the organization, to be known as Good Roads Improvement Association; W. H. Nickels was made vice president and J. H. Johnson secretary and treasurer.—Gate City Herald.